

WHEN IS IT...

The week-long trip will be held June 15-21, 2012. Participants will meet for an orientation meeting on June 14 in the Sioux Falls area. The group will then take a chartered bus to the departure airport. They will return to Sioux Falls on June 21. While in Washington, D.C., students will walk, use the Metro and a charter bus for transportation.

HOW DO I QUALIFY...

All applicants must complete an essay and an application form. The essay topic is "Describe what a cooperative is and how they benefit you, your family and community." Complete the Rural Electric Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., application form available at your school or from FEM Electric. For more information, contact FEM Electric.

Submit the completed application to FEM Electric Cooperative before the March 6 deadline.

2012 YOUTH TOUR REQUEST FOR APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail address: _____

Phone: _____

School: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

T-Shirt Size: _____

WHO IS ELIGIBLE AND WHAT DOES IT COST...

This all-expenses paid trip is for high school juniors and seniors who live in the service area of FEM Electric Association (primarily Faulk, Edmunds and McPherson counties). While all lodging, transportation, admission and meal costs are paid for by the cooperative, students are asked to bring their own spending money.

Send completed application request form to:

FEM Electric Association, Inc.
PO Box 468
Ipswich, SD 57451

**The deadline to return the
application and essay
is March 6, 2012.**

For More Information, Contact:



Stephanie Horst, Operations/Member Service Assistant
stephanie@femelectric.coop
or Richard Johnson, Member Services Director
johnson@femelectric.coop
PO Box 468 • 800 Fifth Ave. • Ipswich, SD 57451
605-426-6891 • www.femelectric.coop



A Trip of a Lifetime...

*During my week in D.C., I had one of the most
AMAZING and POWERFUL experiences of my life.
~ Luke B., 2011 Participant*



What makes electric cooperatives different from other utilities is that "giving something back to the community" is part of their business plan. Why do electric cooperatives bring high school students to Washington? Because it is important to learn about the political process to interact with your government. You will walk away from this week as a better leader and a sense that you can make a difference.

The Rural Electric Youth Tour has brought high school students to Washington, D.C., every June since the late 1950s. Students compete for slots for this unique opportunity and are selected for this program by their local electric cooperative.

The featured speakers during National Youth Day provide insight to the important roles electric cooperatives play in their community. Students gain a personal understanding of American history and their role as a citizen by meeting their representative and senators and explore the sights around the nation's capital. Don't be surprised if you run into a former Youth Tour participant who is a congressional aide on Capitol Hill. Several of our alums work in Washington.

More than 40,000 students from rural areas and small towns across America have participated in this unique program. Some of our Youth Tour alums have gone on to design airplanes and to serve in the highest ranks of our government, including the U.S. Senate.

If you want to be part of this fun (free!) week in Washington, please contact your local electric cooperative or high school career center for additional information.

The Rural Electric Youth Tour really opened my eyes to...

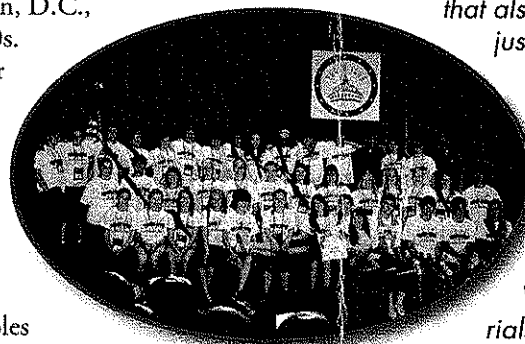
...seeing what is really happening in the world and being able to see the history firsthand. It makes things that you read in text books more realistic.



...life in the capitol. I never really understood how long a day for a senator could really be and that also includes all of his/her staff. It just makes me think about all of the people involved in running the country.

History really came alive for me when we visited...

Arlington National Cemetery, the Holocaust Museum and the Vietnam, WWII and 9/11 Memorials.



Now that I've been on the Rural Electric Youth Tour, I plan to... *Tell everyone I can about it! It's an excellent experience and it is totally worthwhile.*

One last comment: *Never be too lazy to write an essay or at least send in your application, this is something you will remember for the rest of your LIFE!*



Here's the Short Version:

Seven days: Fly out on June 15, back on June 21. • See lots of D.C. sites (14 of the top 15, according to one guide book).

• 1,500 students from around the nation, about 40 from South Dakota. •

Students – **like you** – from rural areas, small towns and suburbs.

• Meet new friends. • Learn about our country. • Learn about electric cooperatives.

• Learn about our government. • Job shadow in the U.S. Congressional Offices.

• Have fun. •

Best of all it's **FREE** – All costs are paid for by your local Touchstone

